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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/748,826	12/29/2003	Ming-Fang Tsai		7200

25859 7590 01/25/2008  
WEI TE CHUNG  
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EXAMINER
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NELSON, FREDA ANN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3628

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/25/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/748,826

Applicant(s)

TSAI, MING-FANG

Examiner

FREDA A. NELSON

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

The communication received on January 7, 2008 is acknowledged and entered. Claims 10-12 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-12 are currently pending.

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Claims 10-12 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on January 7, 2007.

### ***Priority***

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 03/29/2003 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by the examiner. A copy of PTO-1449 is attached hereto.

### **Examiner's Note**

Examiner cited particular pages, columns, paragraphs and/or line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant.

Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that, in preparing responses, the applicant fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Choe et al. (US PG Pub. 2002/0069082).

As per claim 1, Choe et al. discloses a system for purchase order management, the system comprising a database server and a plurality of client computers connected with an application server (FIG. 1), wherein:

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the database server is used for storing customer data, product data, and purchase order data ([0017]; FIG. 10);

the application server is used for managing purchase orders according to the customer data, the product data and the purchase order data, the application server (FIG. 15) comprising:

a product information maintaining module for maintaining and integrating information on products (FIG. 15);

a customer information maintaining module for maintaining and integrating information on customers ([0015], [0018]);

a product price information maintaining module for determining a price for each customer (see claim 14); and

a shipment information maintaining module for scheduling production and shipment of products ([0048]); and

each of the client computers is enabled to visit the application server, and further to access data stored in the database server via the application server ([0018]).

As per claim 2, Choe et al. discloses the system for purchase order management as described in claim 1, wherein the application server further comprises a shipment delay managing module for managing delayed purchase orders according to production schedules (see claim 37).

As per claim 3, Choe et al. discloses the system for purchase order management as described in claim 1, wherein the application server further comprises a customer complaints managing module for managing customer complaints, deferring shipments, and enquiring whether the customer agrees to reproduce the products ([0125]).

As per claim 4, Choe et al. discloses the system for purchase order management as described in claim 1, wherein the application server further comprises a purchase order reports outputting module for integrating all purchase order information and storing the information in the database server ([0015]).

As per claim 5, Choe et al. discloses the method for purchase order management, the method comprising the following steps:

determining whether a customer is an existing customer, and if the customer is an existing customer, enquiring of information on the customer ([0065]);  
enquiring of information on a product ([0018]);

determining whether the product has price information, and if the product has price information, acquiring the product's price;

determining whether a total purchase price of the product exceeds the customer's credit limit, and if the total purchased price does not exceed the customer's credit limit, accepting the purchase order ([0020],[0022],[0108]; and  
determining whether inventory of the product is sufficient, and if the inventory is sufficient, determining to dispatch the product.

As per claim 6, Choe et al. discloses the method for purchase order management as described in claim 5, further comprising the step of inputting and storing information on a new customer, if the customer is not an existing customer ([0065]).

As per claim 7, Choe et al. discloses the method for purchase order management as described in claim 5, further comprising the step of inputting and storing price information on the product, if the product has no price information ([0146], see claim 32 {Choe et al. teaches orders for which an ordered product quantity and a price are different from the previously set-up minimum order quantity and price are errors {0146}} and errors can be corrected (claim 32), therefore, the examiner interprets this as inputting and storing price information}).

As per claim 8, The method for purchase order management as described in claim 5, further comprising the step of refusing the customer's purchase order, if the total price exceeds the customer's credit limit ([0112]).

As per claim 9, Choe et al. discloses the method for purchase order management as described in claim 5, further comprising the step of ordering a relevant workshop to produce the product, if the inventory is not sufficient (see FIG 5).

### ***Conclusion***

The examiner has cited prior art of interest, for example:

Peterson et al. (US Patent Number 6,324, 522), which discloses electronic information network for inventory control and transfer.

Kirsch (US Patent Number 5,963,915), which discloses a secure, convenient and efficient system and method of performing trans-internet purchase transactions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Freda A. Nelson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7076. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 AM -6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

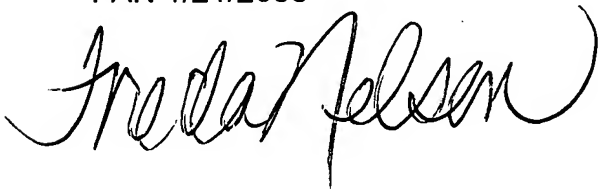
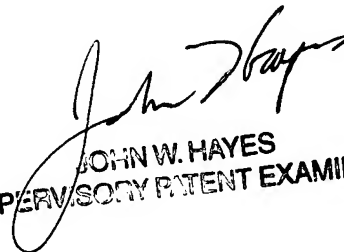


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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

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FAN 1/21/2008

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Freda Nelson".A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John W. Hayes".  
**JOHN W. HAYES**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**